

ALEPPO NEWS

Monthly



VOL. VIII

JULY, 1942

No. 6

Second Annual Shrine Circus, Boston Garden, September 28th

IN view of last year's tremendous success Potentate Wilson has recently exercised exclusive option with Hamid Morton Circus and the Boston Garden to again present, under Shrine sponsorship, one full week of circus enjoyment starting Monday evening, September 28, through Sunday evening, October 4, 1942.

While the results of the 1941 Shrine circus week in Boston surpassed all expectations, plans this year provide ticket arrangements which should assure 100 per cent satisfaction. To eliminate possible disappointment and assure advance reservations, even the 60-cent general admission tickets may be exchanged in advance for general admission reserved seats, without extra charge. At least 6500 such seats will be available at every performance. And, of course, for 50 cents additional, any 60-cent general admission ticket may be exchanged for an even better \$1.10 reserved seat.

The general public now realizes that the annual Shrine circus is not an amateur effort by Nobles of Aleppo Temple, nor a circus for the exclusive enjoyment of Shrine members. They now know that it represents, at popular prices, a real 3-ring, all professional, indoor circus under Shrine sponsorship, but with general public patronage solicited. They know now that a Shrine circus at the Boston Garden means a three-hour, \$3.00 show for 60 cents, without any catch to it.

Last year's Aleppo Circus Week not only provided welcome funds for Shrine activities, but it resulted in thousands of children from welfare agencies, and less fortunate homes, seeing a real indoor circus, without one penny of expense, as real guests of the Nobility and such friendly citizens and business men as cared to participate in the worth-while effort. Most particularly it appears to have been a public activity of real merit which resulted in the most favorable kind of publicity for Aleppo Temple. This year, as an additional feature, the entire proceeds from the sale of all programs, at every performance, will be donated to the Army and Navy Relief Society. It was decided by Potentate Wilson that suitable

recognition of the present war emergency should be in that definite and specific form rather than to invite public adverse criticism that the Shrine was even partly trying to increase ticket sales on a patriotic basis as might be the case if proceeds from some special performance, or some percentage from ticket sales for the week, were advertised as being applied to war purposes.

This year's performance will include many new acts which appeared at the Buffalo Shrine Circus this spring. Rowland Teibor's trained seals, Dr. Ostermeyer's beautiful performing horses, Snyder's bears, the Con Coleana tight-wire act, Bell-Ward Troupe of acrobats, Peaches sky revue, Ostons and Ostons with their high swinging perch poles, Grottefens' high wire act, the Jim Wong Chinese troupe, and a world famous lion and tiger act are only some of the promised features. Most spectacular of all, however, will be the double-barreled *climax*! Not only will Peejay Ringens repeat his death defying bicycle ride and 110-foot leap through the air into less than three feet of water, but we will also see Miss Bee Kyle in her sensational back dive from the rafters of the Boston Garden into a flaming tank of fire.

In the last analysis one primary object of our annual Shrine circus is to pack Boston Garden with little free guests of Aleppo Temple—and that means every possible child who could not otherwise experience the real thrill of a real circus. You can buy the tickets, and send children of your own choice, or you can send the tickets to Shrine headquarters for free use by children from the many social agencies and welfare groups, irrespective of race, creed or color, who last year gratefully accepted our hospitality. This year we want even more children in the seats! And to that end Potentate Wilson will be more than glad to receive ticket requests from any and all charitable institutions and agencies in Metropolitan Boston.

So everybody up for Aleppo's Second Annual Shrine Circus! "We did it before, and we can do it again."

THE BIRTH OF THE AMERICAN FLAG

THE year 1942 is the 165th anniversary of the birth of the American Flag. Its history is an interesting one.

Mrs. Betsy Ross, a young widow who was skilled in needlework and had done considerable fancy-work for General Washington, had promised him to make the model flag. When he, with Robert Morris, the great financier, and Colonel George Ross, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, called upon her and Washington drew out the design, she refused to make it, as the pattern had upon it a six-pointed star. Upon being asked her reason, she said, "That star is a sign of heraldry. As they are to be placed in a circle they will have to be put on always with much care, as they must be perfectly straight to look well, while a five-pointed star looks well any way it is placed. If you look at a star in the sky it always looks as if it had five points." Taking a piece of paper, she folded it and making one cut of the scissors, handed it to General Washington, who opening it, said, "Gentlemen, it is perfect. Let us have them five-pointed." This flag was adopted June 14, 1777.

So the flag remained for eighteen years, but in 1794, Kentucky and Vermont having been added to the Union, Senator Bradley, of Vermont, introduced a bill in Congress to change the flag to fifteen stripes and fifteen stars, claiming that these two States should be represented in the flag. The law was passed to take effect on May 1, 1795. This was our flag during the war of 1812, and it was the flag that Francis S. Key saw floating over Fort McHenry when he was inspired to write the "Star Spangled Banner." In 1816 there were nineteen States and all wanted a star and a stripe. In 1917 another State was added, and a committee was appointed to arrange a design for a new flag. Hon. Peter H. Wendover, of New York, was the chairman of the committee. He insisted upon keeping the same design, but not adding any more stripes, as they would be so narrow that the white would not always be visible at a distance and it might be mistaken for an English flag. In fact, his plan was to return to the thirteen stripes, representing the thirteen original colonies, and giving each State a star. Though meeting with great opposition, he won the day, and on April 4, 1818, Congress enacted a bill favoring his plan.

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NOTES OF NOBLES

ONE of our most active workers in selling the Shrine to prospective members around the Lynn district is Noble Fred Richardson.

Fred, who has been a Shriner for 37 years and a member of the Aleppo Arab Patrol for 29 years, recently retired from his position with the General Electric Co. of Lynn. Since his retirement he has acquired the hobby of attending Lodge Meetings in his district and boosting Aleppo Temple to those who are not members of the Shrine.

"Rich", as he is known by the Nobles, creates the interest in Aleppo through personal contact and his own stories of the Shrine and Shriners' Hospitals. He has headed many Nobles on the right path and although his name doesn't appear on some of the applications he works on, he says he doesn't mind so long as Aleppo gets the candidate and the candidate gets the works.

Noble Herbert Potter, who is on leave of absence from the Mounted Patrol, dropped in the other day all decked out in a Major's uniform.

Herb is located with a cavalry unit at Fort Devens and was spending a few days' leave at home in Newton, so he dropped into the Shrine office to say "Hello".

Herb took the family to the beach while here, but said he preferred the hot drill fields of Devens to the cold water of Nantasket.

As a Major in the cavalry he has two horses at his disposal but has not been able to ride for weeks due to the long hours of work he has to put in at camp.

Major Potter took a look at the new Mounted Patrol uniforms and thought they were pretty snappy. He hopes to be back riding with the Aleppo boys again soon.

At a recent joint meeting of the Masonic Lodges of the Malden and Melrose 7th Masonic District, Noble George E. Hunt was honored by Most Worshipful Albert A. Schaefer, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, through the presentation of a "DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL" in recognition of his untiring service to the work of Freemasonry in Massachusetts.

This distinguished honor is possessed by only twelve members of the Masonic craft in Massachusetts.

At this same meeting the Grand Master presented "Fifty Year Veteran's Medals" to 31 members entitled to the same and who hold membership in the different Lodges of the District.

The Reverend Dr. Oliver J. Hart, who has been a frequent visitor to our Aleppo Ceremonials and other Shrine functions in Boston, was recently elected Bishop co-agitator of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Hart, who was serving as an Army Chaplain at Fort Dix, New Jersey, at the time of the election, was on leave from Trinity Church in Boston. He was a World War Veteran and was decorated for bravery in action with the 1st Division in France.

Mr. William Knowlton, of Webster, Mass., has held the honor of the Largest Single Contributor of tinfoil to the Shrine Hospital at Springfield for several years. Word has been received that he is well on the way to retain that honor this year as he already has 92 barrels now waiting to be sent to the hospital. His last donation, which was sent to the hospital last Fall, consisted of 85 barrels.

One of Aleppo's prominent Degree Staff members, Noble Irving E. Church, was elected National Chaplain of the Air Service Veterans' Association at their eighth annual convention recently held in Boston.

The Association is made up of veterans of the U. S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps and National Guard air service and is designed to further the interests and developments of civilian, commercial and military aviation.

THE FORGOTTEN MAN

THE following interesting letter was received from one of our Nobles in the Merchant Marine:

"There is a list in nearly every magazine and paper of the men serving in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, but there seems to be no place for the names of the men serving in the Merchant Marine—the men who are risking their lives every minute of the day and night to get supplies through to the armed forces. Without their efforts there would be no armed forces.

"When a man signs up for the Army or Navy he has a chance of never leaving the country or guarding a bridge, but when a man signs up in the Merchant Marine it means he will be in active service within 24 hours. As soon as his ship leaves the breakwater he is at the mercy of the submarines. It is true that some are protected by convoys but the greater part have no protection whatsoever.

"The ships plough along in total darkness at top speed, some run on to submerged ships previously sunk, some are nearly cut in two by collision and hundreds are hit by torpedoes. A great many are sunk, some make port, the shipyards are filled with them. All they will have is the memory of that night when, without warning, they were hit—the smell of the explosive and the ship sinking—then getting into a life boat and dodging torpedoes or swimming through flaming oil and waiting to be picked up. There is hardly a sailor in the Merchant Marine of this war but has been on a ship hit by a torpedo.

"I am a member of Aleppo Temple and I am out here doing my duty, and the reason that I am writing this is to urge the Shrine to take it upon themselves to see to it that after this war is over the men who served in the Merchant Marine will be recognized as veterans with all the rights extended to those who served in the Army, Navy, Marine and Coast Guard.

"The Shrine is known all over the world for its job in helping the crippled children, and I believe the Shrine will be honored if they get busy and see to it that the boys who served in this one, also the last one, will be recognized as veterans and not No. 1 slackers.

"Thank you for reading it.

"NOBLE CARL A. STURTEVANT."



ALEPPO'S MILITARY HONOR ROLL

IN addition to the names of our Nobles previously listed, the following members are in the Armed Forces of our country.

HERBERT POTTER, Major,
Camp Devens, Mass.

N. E. SILBERT, 1st Lt., M. C.
7 Medical,
Camp Lee, Va.

WILL I. LEVY, Lt. Col., C. A. C.,
H. Q. Carolina Sub. Sector,
Fort Monetric, So. Carolina.

HERMAN SCHWARTZ, Capt., M. C.
95 Inf. Div.,
Camp Swift, Texas.

MINER F. FELCH, Col., M. C.
Camp Rucker, Alabama.

RALPH M. SWIFT, Lt. Col.,
State Director of Selective Service,
Boston, Massachusetts.

ROBERT S. HARRIS,
U. S. Navy,
Boston, Mass.

WENDELL T. LADD,
U. S. Naval Operating Base,
Argentia, Newfoundland.

ERNEST S. COFRAN, 1st Lt.,
Army Air Force,
1509 East-West Hwy.,
Silver Springs, Maryland.

CHARLES B. SPRUIT, Col., M. C.,
U. S. Army,
Washington, D. C.

JOHN E. JOHNSON, Major,
302 Ordinance Regt., 1st Bat.,
Camp Sutton, Monroe, N. C.

OTT H. MAIER,
Wright Field,
Dayton, Ohio.



NINETY-TWO POOR SONS OF THE DESERT crossed the Hot Sands to Mecca at our last Ceremonial, held May 22, 1942.

The above photo shows the largest class of candidates Aleppo has had for many years, posing with Potentate Wilson and the Aleppo Ritualistic Degree Team. Judging from the serious expressions on the faces of the candidates we would say that the photo was taken before the "Heat" was turned on.

Cheer up, boys, you can sit back and see your candidate get the works at the next Ceremonial. Have you signed him up yet? The Recorder will gladly supply the membership petition.

Photo courtesy Fay Foto Service, Boston

SHRINE HOSPITAL REPORT

ACCORDING to the latest reports from the New England unit of the Shriners' Hospitals located at Springfield, there are at present 14 children under treatment in the hospital as patients who have entered through Aleppo Temple.

The report shows the waiting list includes 103 crippled children who will be entered as soon as the children now in the hospital are released. There are also 24 cases in the process of investigation and 6 additional cases having dates already set for admission.

The out-patient department, which is a very busy part of the hospital, has 363 active cases.

The total number of applications received to date since the opening of the unit in 1925 is 8,023, and 53,868 visits have been made to the out-patient department during this period.

The Nobles, their families and friends are always welcome to visit the hospital and the Shrine urges everyone to make visitations to witness the work being carried on for these unfortunate crippled children. The Nobles of Aleppo are also urged to bring in the application of new crippled children who might be eligible for treatment. The requirements are that the child must be under 14 years of age, normal mentality, an orthopedic case, and the parents or guardian of the child must be financially unable to provide the proper medical care.

If you know of any child, regardless of race, creed or color, desiring treatment, who can answer to the above requirements, we suggest you write the Recorder for an entrance blank to get the child started on its way to rehabilitation through the assistance of the Shrine, that it may go out into the world a better citizen and enjoy life as it has a right to expect.

Act now and help a crippled child.

YOUR FEZ—OFF AND ON

SOME Nobles are uncertain about their fez etiquette—when to take off the little red bonnet, and when to keep it on. Here's the proper procedure; let's all take notice and do the right thing together.

The Imperial Committee on Forms and Ceremonies recommends that, since the Shrine partakes of the nature of a military organization, a Noble who has his fez on will come to a right-hand salute when the colors are within six paces of him, *but not remove his fez*. After the colors have passed him, he should drop his right arm. In case the same colors pass the same point again, as often happens in the opening of a Ceremonial session, or in display drills, the colors need not be saluted a second time. The same rule applies in street parades.

During the offering of a prayer in worship, *the fez should be removed*, and, for the sake of uniformity, it might well be held in the right hand over the heart. These suggestions are not mandatory, but their observance will make for greater uniformity in handling the fez. A safe rule is to keep an eye on the Divan members and promptly follow their lead.



HISTORY OF THE FEZ

THE Fez which we Nobles of the Shrine have the honor and privilege of wearing has been handed down to us through the ages. The Red or Scarlet Fez which is the official headwear of the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine derives its name from the original place of its manufacture, the Holy City of Fez in Morocco and dates back to the year of about 980 A.D.

In that day the City of Fez was the seat of learning, drawing pupils and scholars from all parts of the world.

The City besides being a holy one, was also the center of manufacturing, which included silks, sashes, carpets, leathers, and headdresses which were known as Fezzes, so named from the Holy City of Fez.

The Fez was dyed red or scarlet and became the symbol as a mark of learning in favor of the wearer, and only the highest dignitaries were permitted to wear the red hat or Fez. In the Orient this prevails even to the present time. As the glory of the City of Fez faded, the manufacture of the Fez for use in southern Europe and northern Africa is now confined chiefly to Austria, France and Turkey.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

IS Aleppo Temple mine, or is it his or theirs?

If every Noble came to meetings as regularly as I do, what would the attendance be?

If every member boosted as I do, what would the Temple's reputation be?

If every member greeted other members and guests as I do, what would the Shrine fellowship be?

If every member participated in Shrine activities as I do, what would the life of the Shrine be?

If every member paid dues as I do, what would the Temple's financial standing be?

If every member gave the same thought and effort that I do in bringing new members into Aleppo, what would the membership be?

The answer should be . . . Aleppo Temple would be the largest, most interesting fraternal organization in the world.

What do you say, Noble? Let's make it just that.



By J. ARTHUR MCCOY
Associate Editor

TEARING off the June leaf of the calendar, we see that it is dotted with activities of the members —

When Bill Shannon received the Order of the Temple in Boston Commandery, June 17, he found that the principal officers of the Commandery were former buddies in the second platoon, Eminent Commander Walter Duncan, Captain General Frank Ellis and Master of Ceremonies Eminent Sir Robert Gardiner Wilson, Jr.

On the 17th too, Thatcher Taylor, of the first platoon, was inducted into the armed service. "Scratch" enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve as chief boatswain's mate, presumably for patrol service along our coast.

Once again the new Commander of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company is a member of the Patrol. Captain Fred Rogers was elected commander in the traditional drum-head election June 2, following the 304th anniversary celebration of the Company.

Em. Sir Robert Gardiner Wilson, Jr., commander of the 8th Division, Grand Commandery, with Frank Ellis, his Deputy Grand Warder, installed the officers of Ivanhoe Commandery at Gardner, June 4.

Em. George Weeks, Commander of the 8th Division, Grand Commandery, with Em. Russ Lynn, his Deputy Grand Warder, installed the officers of Joseph Warren Commandery at Roxbury June 3, and also installed the officers of Jerusalem Commandery at Fitchburg, June 18.

Lieut. Harold Burr, of the fifth platoon, was installed as Generalissimo of Gethsemane Commandery, Newtonville, June 25. And Gus Swanson, long a member of the second platoon, was installed as Commander of Quincy Commandery, June 26. Congratulations, Sir Knights.

Day by day, we learn that additional members are enlisting in the home defense work. Quartermaster Charlie Taylor is wearing a gold badge signifying that he is Captain of Auxiliary Police in Cambridge. Orrin Andrews of the second platoon has gone to Warwick, R. I., to take up war work.

Lieut. Leslie Dixon and his snappy second platoon put on an exhibition drill at Fraternity Lodge, Newtonville (Wor. Donald A. Drury) and also at Loyalty Chapter, O. E. S., Roxbury (W.P. Dr. Joseph Laserson).

Police Sergeant George Gardner of the first platoon, and Commander of Suffolk County Council of the American Legion, is prominently mentioned for Vice Commander of the State Department for the election at Holyoke in August.

Tommy Wyman of the fourth platoon is at home, recovering from an

appendicitis operation June 8. Golf schedules, of course, are all out.

An A.P. news release of June 27 says that the trustees of the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children are prepared to turn over four of them in coastal areas to the government for military use if the need arise. The Honolulu unit already has been turned over to the military. Those considered are the Philadelphia and the Springfield units on the East Coast and those in San Francisco, and Portland, Ore., on the West Coast. Since the first hospital was opened in Shreveport, La., in 1922, more than 80,000 bed patients have been received and more than 200,000 children have been treated through the clinics.

Patrol Roll of Honor—Members in the U. S. Armed Forces:

Lieut. Gordon Chapman

Chief Boatswain's Mate Thatcher Taylor

Capt. George Tufts



MOUNTED PATROL

HORSES — HORSES — HORSES

THE Mounties have had their last ride until the fall and what a ride—one of our new prospects forgot that the horse and the man are supposed to synchronize and he is now eating off the mantlepiece.

Only one absentee at the last supper which was held at Trooper Barracough's and after a delightful lobster salad with all the usual preliminaries we were entertained with a series of moving pictures of various Shrine trips and other scenic views taken by Trooper Fischer.

Trooper Bennett has just recently been made a Sergeant in the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Co.

Several of the troopers are taking an active part in the State Guard and from all reports are doing a fine job.

Trooper Hobart is quite active in State Defense work.

Trooper Patterson goes into the Navy shortly.

All told the Mounties are doing their duty as they see it and will perform as usual doing credit to the Shrine.

HERE'S TO OUR AMERICAN BOYS—WHO HAVE ARMS FOR THEIR GIRLS AND ARMS FOR THEIR COUNTRY'S FOES.



MASONRY AND THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

FREQUENTLY one hears the question, "How old is the Statue of Liberty, and what part did the Masonic Order take in the laying of this world-famous object of interest in New York harbor?"

According to the encyclopedia, the Statue of Liberty was erected on Bedloe's Island over 52 years ago (October 28, 1886). The cornerstone was laid by the officers of the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of New York on August 5, 1885.

YOUR 1942 SHRINE CARD

THERE are three mighty good reasons why you should have this card as early in the year as possible.

First: In wearing a Shrine pin you are recognized as a member of the greatest fraternal organization in the universe. No matter where you are, the sight of a Shrine pin brings to you a feeling of association and brotherhood with a brother Shriner and to the uninitiated, thought and admiration of you as an above the average citizen.

Second: Whenever you may have a doubt as to why you wish to continue to be a Shriner make a visit to any Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children and see for yourself what is being accomplished, what wonderful work is being done. If you fail to have tears come to your eyes, and are not proud of the work of which you are a part, it will indeed be a surprise for us.

Third: In order to attend any strictly Shrine function you need this card, and you miss a lot of fun during the time you are without it. So send your \$12.00 to the Recorder now, and have yourself in readiness for any Shrine function.



ORIGIN OF THE WORD "NEWS"

IT may be said that Julius Caesar founded the first "newspaper," but this was in the form of waxed tablets upon the surface of which the "Acts of the (Roman) Senate" were scratched with pointed tools by trained writers known as *tabularii*. The Acts of the Senate gradually developed into a publication of general news, named "Acts of the City." But, even before the time of Caesar, the Egyptians and the Chinese referred to the word "news" in their literary works.

The word in English, however, has originated from various sources. Before the advent of printed newspapers, written messages and dispatches were carried from town to town by "news reporters" riding on horseback. In course of time this system is said to have led up to the practice of posting important news items on boards in public places, such as the local inns, the "town hall," the stations from which stage coaches departed, etc. According to historical notes in old English books, came the time when the written news items were pinned or pasted upon the bulletin boards under four different letter-headings as: N. E. W. S. Under the letter N "public occurrences" in the North part of the country were placed. Happenings in the East were reported under the E column. In the W column news from the West were given, while in the space under the S were placed reports from the South.

Eventually, these four letters of the compass were joined together to form the word NEWS, as it is known today.

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STATE DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION HENRY PARKMAN JR. told the Shriners as guest speaker at their last luncheon of the season, how the price control regulations have been arranged for the protection of the people of the country.

Above photo shows head table at the luncheon. Left to right: Past Potentate Charles T. Cahill; Mr. Parkman; Potentate Robert Gardiner Wilson Jr.; Chief Rabban Willard P. Lombard and Treasurer Frank W. Morrill.

Photo courtesy Fay Foto Service, Boston

WE ARE AT WAR!

UNDER the white flag of peaceful negotiations, a yellow streak struck Uncle Sam below the belt.

America couldn't be attacked; but it was.

Bombs burst in Hawaii and their repercussions united our people. We are one, and inseparably dedicate ourselves to destroy Japanese imperialistic treachery and German Hitlerism.

America and Great Britain stand shoulder to shoulder championing human rights and liberty. Upon us depends the destiny of civilization.

We will not fail.

There isn't an American who wouldn't willingly sacrifice his life to defend his home, his children and his country against these treacherous Japanese. Few, however, will be called upon for active military service. You won't have to die for America, but you must live for it. You are in service now, not next week—not next month—but NOW.

The Constitution of the United States is the only insurance policy in the world that guarantees life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Premium time is here. Don't let it lapse. Just how much it will cost to preserve our Bill of Rights nobody knows. If it takes every penny you have, it's worth it. Money lent to the Government through the purchase of War Savings Bonds and Stamps is the premium you must pay for national safety and security. If you don't lend it to Uncle Sam today, you may give it to Hirohito and Hitler tomorrow.

The destiny of the United States is in your hands. America needs your help now.

We cannot—We must not—We WILL NOT FAIL.

"The Arabian"—Houston, Texas

"APRON AND FEZ"

LOU CHACKES, Commentator

SIMILARITY of purpose and unity in action is increasingly being displayed through continued Temple activities in Lodge functions.

Noble James A. Elrod, Grand Master of Masons in New Mexico, told the Nobility of Ballut Abyad (Albuquerque) of his interest in and praise for the work of Shriners, especially for Crippled Children. Particular reference was made to the inspiring contributions made by Imperial Potentate Thomas C. Law at the conference of Grand Masters in Washington. Noble George S. Yost, Grand Master of Masons in Maryland, was guest speaker to the Nobility of Boumi (Baltimore).

Honoring Noble William F. Strang upon his return home after being elevated to the exalted rank of Grand Master of Masons in New York State, the Divan, Nobility and Band of Damascus (Rochester) joined in the informal reception which greeted him at the station.

Ismailia was honored by Buffalo Consistory when their Divan occupied the spot light on "Shrine Night." Past Potentate George L. Hager was called into service again to address Buffalo's Masonic luncheon crowd on Shrine day. Zamora's (Birmingham) Nobility participated in the great Masonic meeting in which the Grand Masters of Alabama and Mississippi and Supreme Council representatives provided a stirring program.

Al Kader's Band, Chanters and Drum Corps were prominent on the program prepared by Portland Lodge for a gathering of Master Masons and families to which officers of the Grand Lodge and other dignitaries were invited. The second and third platoons of Aleppo's (Boston) patrol gave exhibition drills to Lodges in Lynn and Newtonville. The officers and Nobility of Aad Temple aided in perpetuating the traditions of the Craft through seven Lodge visitations in Duluth in seven weeks. Members of Cyprus Patrol, Band and Directors confer degrees upon invitation of Albany lodges. Syracuse De Molays invited the Nobility of Tigris to an excellent Shrine night exemplification.

Fezzed Nobles and Mecca's patrol added color to the meeting of Girard lodge when tribute was paid to the devoted and distinguished Masonic labors of Recorder Louis N. Donnat of Mecca Temple of New York City. Grand Lodge and Commandery officials of New York were in the huge crowd which assembled to pay their respects. Lou was Master in 1904 and 1905 and has been treasurer of the Lodge for 37 years.



NOBLE EDGAR GUEST A TWENTY-FIVE YEAR SHRINER

NOBLE EDGAR A. GUEST, a member of Moslem Temple of Detroit for twenty-five years, through his realistic, simple, homespun philosophy has been acknowledged the poet laureate of the American fireside. His poetry indicates that his family is his most prized possession. Many poems about the Shrine and the hospitals have come from his facile pen and fraternal brain to thrill and please the Nobility. His active participation in Scottish Rite degree work earned recognition and reward to the 33rd degree. Coming to this country from England at the age of nine this beloved poet did not have the privilege of an extensive school education, for economic necessity forced him to abandon classroom studies at the age of 14, to earn his first money as a drug store errand boy. Then office boy of a newspaper to reporter, columnist and writer of verse. He has done more than 15,000 poems and has turned out a daily verse without missing a day for 25 years.

Associates and the public have listened and read anecdotes from his inexhaustible store of whimsy and poems of homespun endearment. Noble Guest reveals himself not as a magician who wields a magic pen to produce his verses, but as a typical Shriner who is interested in things about him, realizes the significance of things spiritual as well as worldly in life, and from impressions gained through these factors, creates his poems.

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BY NOBLE CHARLES C. FEARING
Associate Editor

"IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMER TIME."

Oh, Yeah! The good old summer time may be all right for gardeners, vacationists, et al, but for a poor guy who is expected to write a column on Band Notes it is what Sherman said war was, only more so. Frinstance; how can we write a lot of band news when there "ain't no such animile." No rehearsals, no "perades" no nothing. Last month we exhausted our stock of items on the May functions, and the only thing since then was the trip to the Veterans' Hospital in Bedford for a concert. Much to our regret we were unable to attend so cannot give an account of the affair. No doubt the boys did a good job, but we have no first hand information.

They used to say "uneasy is the head that wears a crown," but the "Kink" has nothing on the head that attempts to fill a column out of the clear blue sky.

When ye Editor in Chief called us on the phone with request for copy we threw up our hands, but he is a persistent little cuss, so we told him if we got a "brainstorm" in time we would send it (the brainstorm) along—and this is it.

The only bright spot in a drab and dreary world was a couple of post cards we received from Noble Charles (Fiber) McGee, who is vacationing up in New Hampshire. He spoke about going fishing, but being a man who has a h'gh regard for veracity he does not tell about the "big ones that got away." As for the rest of the gang, we haven't seen hide nor hair of 'em since the turn out on May 24, for Boston Commandery.

If only some of the boys would "bite the dog" that would be news which we might enlarge upon, but although we have scanned the papers every day, none of them have appeared in the police line-up, so we presume they are being law-abiding citizens, as per usual.

As we remarked before, there "ain't no news," and it looks as though the band was a complete "blackout" for the duration—of the summer.

C. C. F.



NOW YOU MAY BECOME A PERMANENT MEMBER IN THE WORLD'S GREATEST PHILANTHROPY

I HAVE been admitted to membership in the Mystic Shrine—not because the Shrine was obligated to accept me but because the boys believed I had the stuff Shriners are made of. Therefore, I have been honored and have good right to be mighty proud of my title as a Noble.

I must be modest, however, for egotism would demonstrate a lack of the qualities the boys thought I possessed.

Honor inevitably entails responsibility. Therefore, I have incurred responsibility, and must do my level best to prove my worthiness.

The Shrine was organized to make fun. It has—and how!

Should it ever fail to do that, it would be just too bad for all of us. The world today stands in more need of good wholesome fun than it ever has before. Without it we would probably degenerate into a race of grouches and sour-balls.

Fun seldom just happens. Somebody makes it. I must not expect others to provide fun for me unless I do some clowning for them. Should I fail to enter wholeheartedly into its spirit and support its purposes I can never enjoy the full measure of pleasure the Shrine has in store for me. To be a real Shriner I must do my part.

To be on the alert for opportunities for helpful service to my fellow Nobles is manifestly one of my responsibilities. Such is the common duty of all mankind, to me magnified by the bonds of common interest and understanding.

Nor does my responsibility end here. No, it is but well begun. For these things, worthwhile as they are, concern only our own individual welfare, interest and happiness.

There still remains a greater responsibility, so far reaching in its humanitarian aspects and economic potentialities, so unselfish in its purposes that it becomes a sacred duty.

The Shrine which includes me, is in business. Very, very serious business. A business which imposes upon me, as a man, and particularly as a Shriner, obligations from which I cannot honorably escape.

The Shrine has assumed an enormous task, that of salvaging the distorted body of every mentally normal crippled child in North America who can be helped by the science of orthopedic surgery and who has no other opportunity to secure such relief, with no reservations as to race, color or creed.

That is big business. It is a challenge which must be met.

So it becomes my duty as a Shriner to be on the lookout for worthy cases and to give the Crippled Children's Hospital my unstinted support and co-operation, that no worthy case may be overlooked and that our great objective may never fall short of full and complete fruition.

As individual fortunes ebb and flow, so "hard times" come and go.

In "Hard times" many Nobles are obliged to give up their membership and but few come in to take their places. Thus does our membership diminish, and the normal income supporting our hospitals fails to meet the demands of then-increasing number of crippled children clamoring at our doors for succor.

That we may not fail them, and default our self-imposed obligation, it becomes a duty to prepare for the "rainy day" that is sure to come.

A Permanent Contributing Membership Fund has been established to furnish a more stable source of revenue to supplement the fluctuating income from the annual hospital assessment of \$2.00 paid by all Shriners. This Fund was established so that our Hospitals may not be impaired or impeded in their noble and glorious work, and we, in the slightest degree, fail to discharge the great duty we have assumed.

A membership in this fund may be purchased by any Shriner through the payment of \$60.00. This membership will relieve him of any further payments on the annual \$2.00 hospital assessment, which is now paid by all Shriners in North America. The principal of the Fund will be used by the hospital board to purchase War Bonds and each year the board will use the income of the fund to pay the hospital assessments of the Nobles belonging to the Permanent Contributing Membership Fund. These payments will be made, not only as long as the member lives but will be made in his name as a memorial, after his death and as long as the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children exist.

Therefore, your \$60.00 payment will be doing triple duty. It will relieve you of further payment of the annual Hospital assessments—it will help the Shrine in its work to retrieve the crippled child and it will buy War Bonds to help lick the Nazis and Japs.

Send your check now for \$60.00 to the Recorder.

In justice to themselves and those dependent upon them, all Shriners cannot assume such membership but the greater number can and doubtless will make this not-too-much-to-ask sacrifice when, and if, they are fully conscious of the vital necessity of this Fund to the future security of our hospital movement.

Since fortune has been so kind that it is now possible for my responsibilities to acquire membership in this fund. I must not and will not delay in the performance of this duty lest the winds of fortune fail me or the Black Camel bear me hence.

Having done this I may join in the endless Caravan in its long, long trek to the "Oasis Beyond the Setting Sun," and looking backward in justified confidence say the Shriners' Hospitals will carry on as long as helpless crippled children need their assistance, and so long will I be doing my part in the great service they render to humanity.

When I have fully discharged all of these responsibilities which membership in the Shrine imposes upon me, then, and only then, will I have justified the confidence of my fellow Nobles and have earned my right to the distinguished title "NOBLE OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE."



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By NOBLE J. HOWARD MACAULAY
Associate Editor

ANOTHER of our members has joined the service of the United States Army. Wilbur E. Parker of the Degree Staff enlisted for the third time with the United States Army and was called to active duty on May 26, 1942. Wilbur, although still a very young man, saw service on the Mexican border, later saw service overseas in World War I and has again enlisted for the duration of World War II. Wilbur's only son has also enlisted and expects to be called in the service within the next few days. We certainly admire such men as Wilbur and hope that he will write to us so that his letters may be published in the ALEPPO NEWS for the benefit of the Nobility.

It does not look as though many of our members will have much time out for vacations this year, most of them being too busy with their business and Civilian Defense work to take time out. In spite of this, attendance at our regular Friday evening meetings has been good and it is something to look forward to during the week.



OUR SHRINE EMBLEM

DID you ever give more than a passing thought to the wearing of the Shrine lapel button? Did it ever occur to you that its display was something more than the showing of a nice little piece of jewelry? If you haven't, it's about time you realized just what the wearing of that button means.

It means that you have been accepted and found worthy to be enrolled as a member of that great and beneficent organization—the foundation of all—the Blue Lodge; it means that you have been accepted and found to be a 32° Scottish Rite Mason or Knight Templar; it means that you should so conduct yourself that no disgrace should fall upon these ancient and honorable orders. It means that you should practice in your daily life the teachings of Masonry, and never for a moment think that because you are a Shriner you have a right to do things that Masonry forbids. If taking the Shrine will have a tendency to make you forget or disregard the principles of Freemasonry, it were better that you had not taken it.

Do you wear a Shrine button? Of course you do, and why? Because you want to be recognized as a Shriner; because you want other men to know the stuff you are made of. What other men? Why Shriners, of course, because

the meaning of the insignia on that button is limited to Shriners. And, let's be honest with ourselves, do you accord other Nobles the recognition you are asking of them? Do you speak to every Noble you meet? How often do you pass out the "Good morning, Noble," which costs you nothing and means so much to him? How much of an effort do you make to cheer the strange Noble on his way, with a look, a word or a shake of the hand, and now admit the truth, all things being equal, do you favor the man with the button? Think this over, and then answer yourself, have you asked anything at the hands of others which you were unwilling to give?

It isn't necessary that you engage every Noble you meet in conversation. There is no crime in the category of crimes equal to undue familiarity, but greet him cheerfully; if he looks sour, more's the reason for your greeting. Now it is agreed, is it, that we all start out on the new deal tomorrow?

The wearing of a Shrine button means an invitation to every other wearer of the same little badge to make himself at home with you; to speak to you; to fraternize with you; to exact and confer favors on you. It's the outward manifestation of the fact that you're not only a Shriner by membership, but at heart, and that you are only too willing to meet your fellow Shriners on the ground of good-fellowship and fraternity.

All this and everything else in the same line is what the wearing of the button commits you to, and if you don't want to be committed to it, leave your button and smile both at home.

The Mystic Shrine is not, and does not pretend to be a Masonic Institution. It unites the Double Eagle and the Cross and Crown in bonds of good-fellowship, teaches all the worth of charity, of speech, scorn of hypocrisy and begets friendships that are the oasis of life's desert.

That the Shrine is an Order established for serious purposes.

That the Shrine stands for Justice, Charity, Benevolence, Virtue, mingled with mirth, fun, and frolic in the broad platform of the common brotherhood of all mankind.

That we can be "boys again just for a night," spread good cheer, forget cares, and have a lot of rollicking fun without losing our sense of responsibility of men of good standing and dignity, whether within the privacy of the Temple or on the public highways or byways.

That while we are not our brother's keeper, each Noble has the reputation of the Mystic Shrine in his keeping, and that by your works shall men know you and pass judgment on your Temple.

That no society or set of men can give us license to forget that we are primarily Master Masons.

LOU DONNATIN,
Recorder, Mecca Temple.

Counsel (to the police witness):
"But if a man is on his hands and knees in the middle of the road, that does not prove he is drunk."

Policeman: "No, sir; it does not. But this one was trying to roll up the white line."

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